

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/019967-2023>

Contract

## **The Fosterline Service Award Notice**

Department for Education

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-019967

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-038d24

Published 12 July 2023, 2:17pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Department for Education

Sanctuary Buildings, 20, Great Smith Street

London

SW1P 3BT

#### **Email**

[Rachael6.DAVIES@education.gov.uk](mailto:Rachael6.DAVIES@education.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

#### **Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education>

#### **I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

#### **I.5) Main activity**

Education

---

### **Section II: Object**

#### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

##### **II.1.1) Title**

The Fosterline Service Award Notice

##### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 71356300 - Technical support services

##### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

##### **II.1.4) Short description**

The Fosterline Service notice of contract award.

##### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

##### **II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)**

Value excluding VAT: £704,026

#### **II.2) Description**

##### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 72253000 - Helpdesk and support services

**II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

**II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

The Fosterline Service is a free, independent national advice service that offers support for both current and prospective foster carers. It has been in place since 2006, funded by the Department of Education. During that time, the Department also increased the scope of Fosterline from responding to ad hoc enquiries to offering individualised ongoing services for current or prospective foster carers requiring help with ongoing issues or detailed tax and benefits advice. The services aim to support foster families to stay together during times of crisis, reducing placement breakdown, and avoiding costs associated with this. The current service is widely used, with over 108,000 contacts (through the helpline service, 1-2-1s, web-chats, emails, website visits etc ) in the year 2021-22.

**II.2.5) Award criteria**

Quality criterion - Name: Technical / Weighting: 80

Quality criterion - Name: Commercial / Weighting: 20

Price - Weighting: 80/20

**II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: No

**II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

---

## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Open procedure

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

### **IV.2) Administrative information**

#### **IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure**

Notice number: [2023/S 000-007640](#)

---

## **Section V. Award of contract**

### **Contract No**

con\_21081

### **Title**

The Fosterline Service

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### **V.2) Award of contract**

#### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

11 July 2023

#### **V.2.2) Information about tenders**

Number of tenders received: 4

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

#### **V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor**

The Fostering Network

London

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor is an SME

Yes

#### **V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot (excluding VAT)**

Total value of the contract/lot: £704,026

---

## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

Department for Education

London

Country

United Kingdom